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Japanese Leftists Attack Ford's Visit

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TOKYO, Oct. 21—Japanese leftists began a drive to stop President Ford's scheduled visit here next month with huge rallies all over Japan today.

The organizers, led by the Communist party, the Socialist party and the major labor unions, said that 2.2 million people had taken part in 456 demonstrations, including one that drew an estimated 70,000 flag-carrying and banner-waving people here in Tokyo.

Kakuo Honjo, chairman of the rally held in Meiji Park in central Tokyo tonight, said in a brief interview that "we're trying to create an atmosphere or mood among the Japanese people to stop Mr. Ford from coming here." He said he did not think there would be physical violence if the President came but that the leftist groups were trying to generate so much vocal opposition that Mr. Ford would cancel the trip himself.

The critical question is whether the leftists can build up a sustained outflow of anti-American sentiment strong enough to prevent the President's four-day visit, scheduled to begin Nov. 18. With the rather light-hearted, carnival atmosphere that prevailed tonight, it seemed doubtful that they had made much headway toward their objective.

The leftists, however, have the first real issue they have had since the end of the Vietnam war, which undoubtedly accounted for the largest turnout they have had at this annual "antiwar day" rite in

years. Leftist organizations, during the Vietnam war, designated Oct. 21 an annual "international antiwar day" for protest meetings and demonstrations.

The new issue is reports of the presence of American nuclear weapons here.

The conservatives, who have ruled Japan steadily for a quarter century, have followed a policy of not making and not acquiring nuclear weapons, and not allowing such weapons to come into this country.

But recent testimony in Washington before a Congressional committee by a retired United States Rear Admiral, Gene R. LaRocque, has made it appear that the Japanese Government has misled its people. Admiral LaRocque testified that American warships regularly called at Japanese ports with nuclear weapons aboard.

Premier Kakuei Tanaka's Government has vigorously denied that nuclear weapons, if they were brought in, were allowed in the Japanese permission. There is evidence, however, of the existence of a secret "transit agreement" that permits the United States to bring nuclear weapons into Japan temporarily.

The Government's denial seems not to have been very effective. Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan's second largest circulating newspaper, said in an editorial: "Many people now believe that nuclear weapons are being secretly brought into Japan despite the three nonnuclear principles and that the Government has always been aware of this."

At the rally here tonight, peaker after speaker rose to denounce the United States and the Tanaka Government, then to demand the abrogation of Japan's security treaty with the United States and the closing of American military bases here. The nuclear issue was also stressed.

Moreover, the leftists pointedly recalled events in 1960, when swirling riots in the streets forced the Japanese Government to cancel President Dwight D. Eisenhower's scheduled visit at the last moment because the Government could not guarantee his safety.

Tonight, a Communist speaker said: "We must read this historical lesson and resort to a new action to stop Ford's visit. Let us have an even larger-scale movement to stop Ford." The response from the audience, munching on hot dogs, noodles and rice lunches and drinking Pepsi-Cola bought from portable stands that ringed the rally, was tepid.

After the rally, the leftists streamed out of the park for demonstrations through the city. One procession wound past the Parliament building and near the American Embassy. It was boisterous but peaceful, more full of sound than of fury.

Ultraleftist radical factions demonstrated in other parts of the capital but they seemed far more concerned about their rivalries with one another than with the nuclear issue or Mr. Ford's visit. In any case they were controlled by special riot policemen, who made 11 arrests.